

Collin County Going the Extra Mile (GEM) Recognition Form

Honoree's Name: Chris Barnes
First Name Middle Initial Last Name

Honoree's Job Title: Legal Advisor

Department: Sheriff's Office

Nominated By: Matt Langan

Years of Service with the County: 6 months

Why the Honoree is receiving a GEM Award including dates:

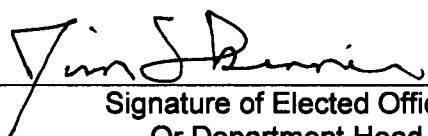
In 2017, the Collin County Commissioners Court created a Legal Advisor position within the Collin County Sheriff's Office. The Court saw the need to provide the Sheriff with the legal expertise needed to operate in conformance with local, state, and federal laws and other applicable policies and regulations.

On October 2, 2017 Chris Barnes began working full-time in this capacity. Since his arrival, he has not only met the basic requirements of his position as set forth in his job description, he has consistently gone "above and beyond" in his performance on a wide variety of assignments.

Mr. Barnes' work has been a tremendous benefit not only to the Sheriff's Office, but to the County and its citizens as well. Mr. Barnes' work has saved the County and its taxpayers thousands of dollars and improved the overall safety of our community. One example of this is a project he recently worked on involving numerous inter-local agreements between the County and several cities and MUDs. Mr. Barnes worked alongside staff from several County departments and representatives of several cities and MUDs in Collin County to draft agreements which ultimately caused these outside entities to pay the County for law enforcement services they had previously received for free. This allowed the County, through the Commissioners Court, to add several deputy positions to the Patrol Division of the Sheriff's Office which better serves our community by providing more deputies on the street, reducing response times to calls for service, and improving the overall quality of law enforcement services provided in Collin County. This would not have been possible without Mr. Barnes.

Mr. Barnes works on a daily basis with the Sheriff, command staff, and deputies in both Operations and the Detention Facility on all matters and routinely makes legal recommendations for risk avoidance or minimization – which serves to reduce the County's liability and potential cost.

Mr. Barnes' overall impact on the Sheriff's Office cannot be overstated. It would be easy for me to simply list all of his accomplishments; however, due to the GEM award's guidelines, I chose to focus primarily on just one of his accomplishments that saved the taxpayers thousands of dollars and improved the overall quality of law enforcement services provided by the Sheriff's Office. Mr. Barnes is an asset to any organization and we are extremely fortunate to have him on our team!


Signature of Elected Official
Or Department Head

Jim Skinner, Sheriff
Printed Name